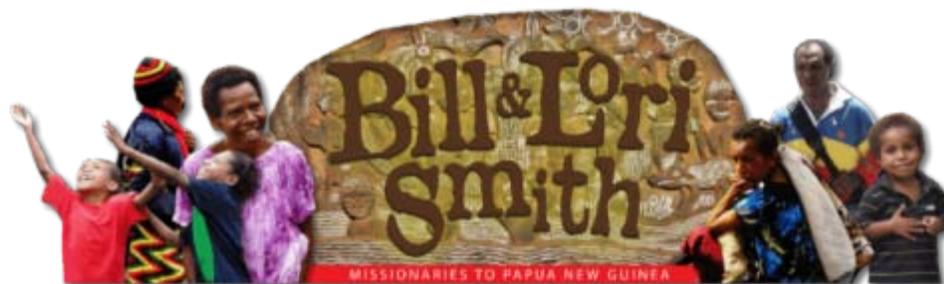


God, Are You Kidding?



February 23, 2014

"You have to be kidding me, GOD!"

It was just ONE of THOSE days today!

My morning started early as usual. Here with our crazy life style in a house full of little ones, noise and interruptions, the only "quiet time" I can have with GOD is at 5am.



**Sunday morning** it is even worse. The house of a ministry family is totally NUTS on Sunday mornings...the enemy makes sure of that. This morning was even worse than normal. ALL my preparation for ministry today just totally "bottomed out". I was reading my devotions from the New Testament and the Spirit of GOD just quietly spoke to my heart that THIS was what my ladies Sunday school class needed to hear. **GOD, are you SERIOUS?** Don't you KNOW how hard it is to find time to prepare for my ladies Sunday school, GBBC Ladies chapel, Bible study in the village AND kids ministries as well as manage our household along with clinic ministry, an eight month old, a two year old a five year old and a ten year old, and more people in and out of our home daily than Grand Central Station. I had a nice outline that was all done in acrostics to boot. I worked really hard, Lord! UGH, OK, Lord, you know what is needed. I got out the pen and paper and started again...**HIS outline not mine.**

I went to get my kids class stuff ready and the lesson I had prepared to teach had the pictures from that lesson in the illustrated book MISSING. UGH. I had not even THOUGHT to check...NOT again, Lord. I was all ready and now you are blocking this lesson, too? OK Lord...as I studied while eating my sweet potato and sipping hot coffee. I am sure GLAD He knew what was going on today as I obviously had all the wrong lessons ready.

Each week has been such a challenge as the so on our already precarious mountain road to get up to church. WE can not even KNOW for sure WHERE we will be ministering until Sunday morning lately. NOT great for this teacher that likes to



start prep for Sunday the Monday of the week. I like to teach progressive ideas and continued stories with cliff hangers to bring the kids back the next week wild with anticipation. I don't even know WHICH kids I will have from week to week as we are in different churches. **ARE you serious ,LORD.** Don't you KNOW how I am wired...my heart as a teacher is not fitting YOUR plan right now! (As my husband had to remind my complaining heart last week...GOD knows who HE wants us to teach and where...so we just need to be ready and KNOW HE will orchestrate it.)

SO finally with lessons that GOD had orchestrated, we were on the road. Well, "road" is a very loose term here as the ground we were trying to drive on was the farthest thing imaginable FROM a ROAD. After two weeks of our students working all Saturday on the "road" it was still literally life threatening with deep three feet trenches the car could barely straddle most of the way up. It was dry so we were able to crawl our way up the mountain somehow (my eyes were closed most of the way!) By the time we made it up to the top I was not sure if I would vomit or faint...both were seeming very imminent to be sure. Every muscle hurt from the tension of the ride... **BUT we made it. And NOBODY was there.** We waited and waited and waited. **Only 8 adults and 10 kids finally came. Are you KIDDING GOD???** We risked our lives and our vehicle for 18 people??? There were two deaths and most of the people that usually come were at one funeral or the other. MAN. HOW frustrating?

I love the book of JOB. NOT that even at it's worst, my day was as bad as Job's day when his world literally came crashing down at his feet, but his faith in the midst of adversity ,when his faith should have been totally shaken, always amazes me. He is my hero. BUT, even my hero questioned GOD, and GOD patiently answered HIM like He answered me today!

**NO, I am NOT KIDDING.**

Though only 4 women were in my ladies SS class (and two were old ladies that both dozed off), one of the ladies was there with a huge need. **The lesson GOD gave me was specifically for her.** She and her husband John have been struggling. They have gone to a church for decades but have had not change in their lives. They are religious but not redeemed! They want to come see us and talk about their questions and needs. PRAY that they will not allow the stirring of His Spirit to be ignored.

Ministry is not easy. It is like swimming up stream most days. We are fighting against a powerful world system run by an incredibly strong enemy, the Prince and Power of this earth.

Some days like today are very frustrating and difficult. BUT we are on HIS time table and following HIS plan. All we need is to be faithful and trust HIM to do the rest.

Please continue to pray with us:

1) It has been a week of really sick people coming to the clinic. We are finding it challenging to keep medical supplies needed with the warehouse in Lae destroyed. Medicine is hard to find right now. Dysentery is just everywhere. A tiny little bacteria that rips apart the intestines and causes agonizing misery for the victims. We have seen this hit from little ones to the elderly and all between. All share the same river so cause of the problem is pretty clear. PRAY that people will heed the warnings and boil their drinking water. PRAY that GOD will provide the needed drugs to help those hurting!

2) We are still waiting to find out if our well water is suitable or not. PRAY that GOD will allow this water to be a real answer to our campus needs in dry season when it comes. For now we are blessed with rain water in adequate supply.

3) Richard, Lilian's widower, has shared that he is not wanting to release the children to a different family at this time. There goes our hope of a Christian family for NOW..but he is not wanting the sister that was previously suppose to care for them to get them, either. She did not care well for Able before and is far from a godly example. Now the big question...what to do with these precious babies when we need to be back in the USA . We really need prayer for GOD to show a way for these kids. ONE huge blessing is that Israel and Cecilia have been getting themselves ready and walking all the way to the Baptist church there they attended when their mom and dad were following the Lord. That is a huge thing for a little seven and nine year old to do. MY heart aches for these kids. I love them so much. PRAY. Many tears!



4) Please continue to pray for Pata...he is still waiting for a CT scan in the hospital at our Capital City. Each day is more exposure to illness in that general medical ward. We need to pray a protective hedge around his little body! As I was writing, we just heard from Nicodemus that the Doctors have told them today that there is not really anything else they can do for him. They have been encouraged to take him home and let him die. This is the day they have dreaded but it seems that they are needing to deal with the reality that he is dying. We are thankful that they are at least being honest with the family and letting our sweet boy die in the comfort of his family. They are hurting...pray.

5) Another of Andrew's mega school bills is paid in full as God keeps providing the impossible before our very eyes. The next \$4000 is needed April 1st. Pray with us. God is able to get our son trained as a missionary pilot as we pray!



6) Pray for God to provide a **Pastor for Lusillo...urgent need!!!!** Not sure how we can keep getting up there each week...walking is a much better option but it is a long mountain climb for my very painful foot! Helicopter anyone? ?!!

While we may not see WHY GOD is doing all that He is doing...we can know HE has a purpose and plan that is for the good of us all. TIRED, HURTING and FRUSTRATED at times, we remain ever committed to following HIS plan. God's Will, nothing more ,nothing less...NOTHING ELSE. "I have decided to follow Jesus...the world behind me the cross before me.....though no one join me still I will follow...NO TURNING BACK. NO TURNING BACK"!

No restraints, no retreats...no REGRETS.

THANKS for praying us along this journey of faith.

Bill, Lori, the boys and baby Joyce

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